

SIEC Briefing Paper on the Role of the SIEC in the Homeland Security Strategic Plan

Prepared by Dennis Hausman, DIS/MOST (360) 902-3463.

Description

The State of Washington Military Department recently completed the *Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan* that names the SIEC as a Co-Lead Agency with the Department of Information Services in operations dealing with radio communications and interoperability. A full text of the *Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan* can be found at <http://emd.wa.gov> by clicking on the Homeland Security button.

Recommendations to the Committee

This is an informational report only and does not require immediate action by the SIEC.

Status

The SIEC/DIS is tasked with the following responsibilities:

- Define statewide interoperability standards and inventory statewide systems.
- Resolve interoperability gaps, including both voice and data capability
- Establish a homeland security communications plan for both secure and non-secure means to communicate internally and externally with local, state and federal partners.

Background

The focus of the Strategic Plan is to achieve an overarching strategy to address the full spectrum of our state homeland security needs. The Strategic Plan, along with other state and local plans, forms an important foundation for the thoughtful, orderly allocation of resources against domestic security requirements.

The plan recognizes eight overarching State priorities that ensure our safety and security by focusing on:

- Fusing and sharing intelligence information among public and private sector entities.
- Enhancing healthcare and public health systems to ensure a surge capacity for emergencies and large-scale disasters.
- Training, equipping, and exercising emergency responders to assure their readiness for complex emergency responses.
- Assessing and protecting key assets and critical infrastructure, including interdependent physical and cyber information systems.
- Planning for and providing continuity of government and business operations before, during and after large-scale disasters.
- Assuring elected officials, community and business leaders, volunteers and citizens are well informed and fully prepared to operate in an emergency environment.
- Protecting and supporting continuous functioning of interoperable communications and public safety information systems.
- Executing proactive deterrence, preemption and prevention initiatives.